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Security Council

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21 March 2007

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Letter dated 20 March 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to my letter dated 22 February 2007 (see annex) concerning the request of the Government of Lebanon to extend the mandate of the International Independent Investigation Commission, I would be grateful if you would arrange for the text of the enclosure to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

07-27743 (E) 220307

Annex to the letter dated 20 March 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to forward herewith a letter from Fuad Siniora, Prime Minister of Lebanon, concerning the extension of the mandate of the International Independent Investigation Commission (see enclosure).

Enclosure

21 February 2007

I refer to Security Council resolution 1686 (2006), by which the Council extended the mandate of the International Independent Investigation Commission into the terrorist bombing of 14 February 2005, until 15 June 2007, and recall in particular the willingness of the Security Council to continue to assist Lebanon in the search for the truth and in holding all those involved in this terrorist attack accountable.

As we near the end of the Commission's mandate on 15 June 2007, and in order to ensure stability and continuity in the investigative process, the Council of Ministers decided, at its meeting of 20 February 2007, to request a further extension of the mandate of the Commission for a period of up to one year from 15 June 2007. The Lebanese Government hopes that Commissioner Serge Brammertz, who is doing a highly professional job at the head of the Commission, will continue in the exercise of his duties during the coming period. Notwithstanding the current difficulties of which you are aware, we also look forward to the earliest ratification by Parliament of the agreement signed between the United Nations and the Lebanese Government for the establishment of the special tribunal for Lebanon.

I look forward to receiving your favourable decision.

(*Signed*) Fuad **Siniora**

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Letter dated 19 March 2007 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I have the honour to convey the attached report on the international security presence in Kosovo covering the period from 1 to 31 January 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring it to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

07-27749 (E) 230307

Annex

Letter dated 8 March 2007 from the Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with paragraph 20 of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I attach a report on KFOR operations covering the period from 1 to 31 January 2007. I would appreciate your making this report available to the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jaap **de Hoop Scheffer**

Enclosure

Monthly report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force

1. This report covers the period from 1 to 31 January 2007.

2. As at 29 January 2007, the total number of troops in theatre was 15,617, which included 2,528 troops from non-NATO countries.

3. There was no change to the status of NATO/NATO Partner/Non-NATO Nation contributions.

Political situation

4. Parliamentary elections in Serbia on 21 January 2007 passed without incidents. Most Kosovo Serbs voted for Prime Minister Kostunica's electoral coalition led by the Democratic Party of Serbia (DSS) and for the Serbian Radical Party (SRS). The turnout was approximately 51 per cent in Kosovo. Kosovo Albanian politics was dominated by the creation of a new party led by former Speaker of the Assembly Daci, the Democratic League (LD). The creation of LD resulted from divisions within the Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK).

Security situation

5. During the reporting period, no inter-ethnic incidents were reported.

6. During the reporting period, no incidents against the Kosovo Force (KFOR) were recorded.

7. Organized Crime and weapons. A total of 308 incidents related to unexploded ordnance (56), illegal weapons possession (82), weapons and ammunition findings (18), drugs (21), counterfeit currency (121), smuggling (8) and human trafficking (2) were reported during the past month.

8. The main operational focus throughout January was to maintain the safe and secure environment during the Serbian election period and ahead of United Nations Special Envoy's presentation of his comprehensive proposal for a status settlement to Belgrade and Pristina. A proactive plan to enhance the security posture before, during and after the Serbian parliamentary elections on 21 January 2007 was issued by KFOR. The level of cooperation, coordination and preparation between KFOR, the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), UNMIK-Police, the Kosovo Police Service and the Provisional Institutions of Self Government of Kosovo was excellent. Ahead of Mr. Ahtisaari's presentation of his comprehensive proposal to the negotiating parties on 2 February 2007, KFOR put in place a significant show of force operation to further increase situational awareness and shape the environment. The activity in the sector of Camp Nothing Hill continued.

Compliance

9. Thirteen major cases of non-compliance with the statement of principles of the KFOR Commander and UNMIK Regulation 1999/8 were decided at the Disciplinary Board on 25 January. Five members of the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) were

dismissed and seven were suspended, and an interim Disciplinary Board should take part on 12 February pending the status of the Commander of the Kosovo Guard.

10. All cases of absenteeism at the Disciplinary Board on 25 January involved Serbs.

Kosovo Protection Corps

11. The current active personnel establishment is 3,030. There are 211 (6.96 per cent) active ethnic minority members (181 males, 30 females). The total number of ethnic minorities decreased by two (one Serb and one Ashkali) compared to the previous month.

12. Three courses within KPC started in January; the officer career course for 16 members; the Primary Leadership Development Course for 32 members; and the initial entry course for 22 members. A certificate programme has been put in place upon completion of each individual module.

13. During the month of January there were 14 ceremonies, which involved more than 340 KPC members and more than 1,300 civilians. No incidents were reported.

Conclusion

14. The overall situation in Kosovo remains calm but the political uncertainty related to the status process may raise some tension in the near term. KFOR remains fully ready to support UNMIK and local authorities in their response to potential unrest as the situation evolves. The threat level against UNMIK and other international community facilities remains medium, and the threat level against KFOR remains low.

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General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 13 and 14

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Letter dated 20 March 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Acting Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement by the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement on the Palestinian National Unity Government, adopted on Tuesday, 20 March 2007 (see annex).

I kindly request that the present letter and its annex by circulated as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 13 and 14, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ileana **Núñez Mordoche**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations
Acting Chair of the Coordinating Bureau
of the Non-Aligned Movement

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